

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 and 5-8 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended. It is submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated April 28, 2009.

Objection to Drawings

On page 2, item 3 of the Action, the drawings submitted March 10, 2009 are objected to as failing to disclose the claimed feature of “vertical two rows.”

This objection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended to overcome this objection by *deleting* the word “vertical” from the recitation of “the movable member has both side surfaces to each of which ~~vertical~~ two rows of the loaded rolling member rolling grooves are formed.” Moreover, claims 1, 6 and 8 have been amended to clarify the claimed feature by *adding* “*wherein the two rows of the loaded rolling member rolling grooves extend in the axial direction of the track member*” and “*wherein a first row of the two rows of the loaded rolling member rolling grooves is positioned in vertical direction with respect to a second row of the two rows of the loaded rolling member rolling grooves.*” This amendment is supported by, for example, Figs. 2 and 4 which describe that two rows of the loaded rolling member rolling grooves are positioned in vertical direction with respect to each other.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

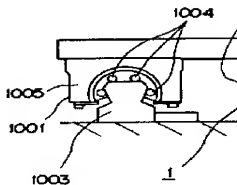
Claims 1, 2 and 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeki (JP 04-164540).

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 calls for the feature of “*wherein an outer periphery of the track member has a substantially circular-arc shape in the section.*” Independent claims 6 and 8 also include similar feature. With regard to this feature, the Examiner relies on left and right track member of Fig. 23 of Takeki (please see page 5 of the Action).

It appears that the Examiner relies on a concave portion of the element 1005 of Takeki which holds the element 1003. However, the concave portion of the element 1005 is an “inner periphery” of the element 1005. Specifically, in the present claimed invention, a movable member is disposed inside the track member to be movable along the track member, as called for in claims 1, 6 and 8.

Therefore, an inner periphery of the track member provides a working surface that supports the movable member. This is described by, for example, Fig. 2 of the present application. As asserted by the Examiner, the concave portion of the element 1005 holds the element 1003. Accordingly, the concave portion of the element 1005 also provides the working surface of the element 1005 and thus, the concave portion of the element 1005 is an “**inner periphery**” of the element 1005.

Moreover, the concave portion of the element 1005 has a hexagonal shape in the section. Specifically, as shown below by an enlarged partial view of Fig. 23 of Takeki, the concave portion of the element 1005 that holds the element 1003 appears to have a sectional shape conforming to the outer shape of the element 1003, otherwise the element 1005 and the element 1003 will come off each other. Therefore, the concave portion of the element 1005 has a hexagonal shape in the section.



On the contrary, in the present claims, an outer periphery of the track member has a substantially circular-arc shape in the section.

In view of the above, Takeki fails to disclose or fairly suggest the claimed feature of “wherein an outer periphery of the track member has a substantially circular-arc shape in the section,” as called for in claim 1 and similarly in claims 6 and 8.

Accordingly, claims 1, 6 and 8 distinguish over Takeki.

Claims 2 and 7 are dependent from claim 1 or 6 and recite the additional features set forth therein. Accordingly claims 2 and 7 also distinguish over Takeki for at least the reasons set forth above.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeki (JP 04-164540) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of JP 61-29163 (JP '163).

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 5 is dependent from claim 1 and recites the additional features set forth therein. Accordingly claim 5 also distinguishes over Takeki and JP '163 for at least the reasons set forth above.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Application No.: 10/584,191
Art Unit: 3656

Amendment under 37 CFR §1.111
Attorney Docket No.: 062714

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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